Cassandra and the Catgirl from the Sky

Posted originally on the Archive of Our Own at https://archiveofourown.org/works/52530745.

Rating:	Teen And Up Audiences
Archive Warning:	No Archive Warnings Apply
Category:	F/F
Fandoms:	Rapunzel's Tangled Adventure (Cartoon), She-Ra and the Princesses of Power (2018)
Relationships:	Adora/Catra (She-Ra), Cassandra/Rapunzel (Disney: Tangled), Catra (She-Ra)/Cassandra (Disney:Tangled), Cassandra & Varian (Disney: Tangled)
Characters:	Cassandra (Disney: Tangled), Catra (She-Ra), Adora (She-Ra), Varian (Disney), Entrapta (She-Ra)
Additional Tags:	demisexual cassandra, Asexuality, Asexual Character, Asexuality Spectrum, Asexual headcanon, Previous Cassunzel, Childhood Friends, Humor, possible pre-relationship, first Catra/Cass fic?, Crushes, Cass has a crush on a catgirl, Catboys & Catgirls, Hurt/Comfort, Adora open to polyamory?, Spaceships, Crash Landing, LGBTQ Themes, Crossovers & Fandom Fusions, Crossover Pairings, Polyamory, Demisexuality, Podfic Welcome
Language:	English
Series:	Part 2 of Bento Brawls to Lesbian "Bad Girls": My Crossover One-Shots
Stats:	Published: 2023-12-25 Words: 4,049 Chapters: 1/1

Cassandra and the Catgirl from the Sky

by lefemmerouge

Summary

A young woman, trying to make amends for the errors of the past, and the harm she caused, comes across a catgirl who fell from the sky in an escape pod. She isn't sure what to expect. Both become closer than either one had intended. As a result, this young woman, a former lady-in-waiting, begins to have some romantic feelings for this mysterious catgirl, while the catgirl hopes to get in contact with her blond-haired girlfriend after her radio gets busted.

Notes

Hello all and happy December 25! Its been a while since I've posted fics on here (the last one I posted was in August 2021!), but I plan to start posting more fics in the days and year ahead. I started writing this fic back in December 2022, but it wasn't until recently that I decided to pick it up again. Before writing this fic, I found there are two results for Catra and Cass on AO3 but neither are for the Catra/Cass ship. As such, I'm going to say this is the FIRST Catsandra (Catra/Cassandra) fic on AO3. I left it open so that I could continue this if I choose to do so. Let me know if you are interested in that in the comments! As always, comments are welcome.

For the purposes of this fic, Catra is 22 and Cass is 25.

Comments are welcome and appreciated.

Update on 12/15/24: This fic was cross-posted on Squidge World. The revisions made there were reposted on here, updating the fic. I may continue this fic in the future, in another part, in 2025.

Update on 5/8/26: A updated/improved version of this fic was posted on Squidge World. It was expanded from the original word count to 4,808 words, adding 759 words (about 18.75%), plus adding the word "Beautiful" into the title. It is always a good thought exercise to revise your previous works and the updated fic is one of those. This new wording in the updated fic makes the text stronger, gayer, and much improved.

See the end of the work for more notes

At first glance, a slender catgirl with tan skin and heterochromatic eyes may seem to have nothing in common with a pale-skinned young woman, whose hair was often layered into a black bob with grey highlights. This couldn't be further from the truth. Both had been considered "villains" either for their abuse of power, cruel treatment of others, or attempted murder. However, these actions, among others, which some described as "malevolent," did not occur in a vacuum. The catgirl was tortured, manipulated, and emotionally abused by Shadow Weaver, a powerful sorceress who had risen the ranks of an evil intergalactic empire named "the Horde." She had become the catgirl's commanding officer. Furthermore, she desired to prove herself as capable, following the departure of her blond-haired childhood friend, who left to discover her destiny as a magical sword-wielder. Believing that this friend was part of her downfall, it resulted in vengeance, and abandonment issues. The catgirl's attempts to dominate the world, assault, mass destruction, what some may call "war crimes," and many other acts, were caused by this desire, her psychological trauma, and other factors. The latter included her relations with her childhood friend, which ended in romance.

The pale-skinned young woman had a similar story. She had been manipulated by an evil wizard named Zhan Tiri who sought the powers of the moonstone and sunspot for herself. She was looked down upon by her good friend, the princess of Corona. Her rage manifested in acts of mass destruction, use of violence to intimidate and create panic, sabotage, blackmail, kidnapping, and beyond. That was in the past. She had apologized to her childhood friend, in-line to become the next Queen of Corona. That friend recently married some supposedly handsome guy who she detested. She knew that if she stayed around the castle, nothing would change for her friend, or herself. So, she had to leave. She resolved to go on her own personal journey, coming to terms with her previous actions, and attempting to make amends for the harm she caused.

That brings us to the present. This woman was lying down on a hill. A light breeze blew across the grass blades, almost like someone playing a violin. Her hair moved with the wind, as did her brown cape and green tunic. She liked the sensation. All of this would have been impossible if she had stayed in the stuffy castle. She wished that everything should remain this peaceful and not change. She was tired of conflict, death, and destruction. She wanted no more of it. In some other galaxy, light years away, people were being massacred by terrifying weapons every day, by beings that looked like her. In those places, some foolishly debated whether such killing was "justified" and manufactured reasons for genocidal actions carried out by their nation's soldiers, who were acting on orders by those who governed.

In the back of her mind, she knew that this peace wouldn't last forever. After everything she went through, she deserved some time to reflect and come to terms with herself. She happened to look up to the sky and saw a flaming object moving at an incredible speed toward the planet’s surface. At first, she ignored it. Suddenly, the pod was clearly in view. She realized that unless she got out of the way, this strange unidentified flying object would smash her like a pancake. Quickly, she desperately ran to a nearby tall tree at the edge of the clearing and climbed to the top. She wanted to be ready for whatever happened. She planned to observe this vessel before approaching it.

Not long after, the pod came to a stop. It smashed into the ground, creating a huge gouge, with dirt flying in many directions. Steam came from the outside. It sizzled like the embers from dying fire. Suddenly, a part of this object opened. A slender catgirl rolled out. The woman couldn't believe her eyes. *Who was this? Why was she here?* She found out soon enough.

She overheard part of the conversation: "Adora! My pod crashed on this planet...I don't want to be here alone!"

The radio crackled. There was a pause. The catgirl was worried. "Catra, I can barely hear you," Adora replied. "Can you repeat that?" she added.

Before Catra could say anything more, the radio caught fire unexpectedly. She threw it across the ground as it *melted*. Not only was the device damaged, but with the vessel busted, perhaps beyond repair, she couldn't contact Adora!

She grumbled about how she was stranded on this mystery planet and couldn't get back. Although she didn't have as many abandonment issues as in the past, being away from Adora, even for a little bit, was a terrible pain to endure. She stamped her foot on the ground and shouted.

"I should have never taken this damn mission! That adorable goof got me again!"

She broke down and began crying. It wasn't supposed to be like this. This emotional outburst was cut short. She sensed that *someone* was watching her. It made her feel uneasy. She prepared herself for an attack.

Thanks to her feline ancestry, she could sense other nearby creatures, humanoid and not. Her catlike ears worked almost like sonar on ships used in the faraway world of Earth (which she had never visited). She knew someone was out there. The pale-skinned young woman began to climb down the tree, hoping to make an escape. She felt relieved when getting to the ground and began to run. A hand touched her on the shoulder. She turned around. A menacing face was staring right at her hazel-colored eyes.

"Where do you think you are going?," Catra demanded.

The woman yelped and jumped back. She was utterly terrified. Even though this catgirl was from another world, in a strange coincidence, they could understand each other fine, without a translation device.

When she rubbed her eyes, she saw that the being in front of her *wasn't* something to be afraid of. This catgirl was clearly athletic. She had angular features, almond-shaped eyes, curving dark eyebrows, retractable black claws on her hands and toes. Adding to this, she had a long brownish prehensile cat tail, and some light-brown, and horizontal, markings on her arms.

The woman chuckled. "Your freckles are *really* cute."

Catra was taken aback. She didn't expect that someone she had just met would complement her so fast. Sheepishly, she responded. "Thanks."

She held out her hand and smiled. She did exactly what Adora taught her about how to greet inhabitants of each planet they visited. It was part of their plan to establish contact across the galaxy. "Hi, I'm Catra. What's your name?"

The woman chuckled. She shook Catra's hand firmly. "Nice to meet you. I'm Cassandra. You can call me Cass for short."

Despite this friendly introduction, Catra was skeptical. She could see that Cass had a sword inside a brown leather sheath tied to her black belt, which had a weathered gold buckle. She presumed that Cass had good acrobatic skills. *After all, who climbs a tree anyway? And why?* She was curious. With her sharp black claws on her toes and hands, she could climb a tree. However, it could prove difficult, especially on a 100-foot tree that the other woman had scaled. Wood fibers from the tree could get into parts of her claw, making it very painful.

Regardless of her wariness toward Cass, a woman who was three years older than her, she decided to join her.

"So…I'll come with you," she began, and then added a qualifier. "If you can find me someone who can fix my...radio."

Cass had no idea what a "radio" was, as she had never heard of anyone use the word in the past. Even so, she preferred to walk with this cat-like woman. This catgirl reminded her of *a tabby cat* that hung around one of the bars across the bridge from the island of Corona. Walking with her would be better than fighting her. "Sure, I'll take you to my…friend. He's bound to know what to do with...that device."

After Catra grabbed the broken radio, they hid the pod so no one would find it by accident. Following this, they began walking toward the newly established Varian Institute of Knowledge, otherwise known as VIK. On the walk there, Cass attempted to push Catra into revealing more about herself. She wanted to know about this girl prior to their meeting with Varian. Although he had turned against her in the past, when she was consumed by the Moonstone, and mentally manipulated by an evil wizard, she had almost forgiven him. At the time, she wasn't fully herself. Even so, her reasons for lashing out, and the trauma she endured, weren't imaginary. They were real.

"So, Catra, why'd you come to this planet anyway?"

Catra hesitated. She wondered if she could trust Cass. Adora's advice came to mind: Always assume best intentions. She decided to follow that…this time. "Well, if you must know, my *GIRLFRIEND* Adora, tasked me with this mission, to make contact with other worlds...since we saved the universe after all."

This forthrightness astonished Cass. Corona, and nearby royal realms, did not have any laws directly condemning or prohibiting same-sex romances. However, there was *a social stigma* against it, despite efforts of her princess friend, and her friend's family, who were the ruling

royal family of Corona, to generate more acceptance. Cass had never been in such a relationship herself, so she was curious. "So, what's that like?"

Catra looked at her strangely. She wasn't sure what Cass meant, causing Cass to attempt to make her point even clearer. She didn't want to seem insensitive.

"You know, being together...with a girl...I liked this girl *once*, but...we never got romantically involved."

Even on her home planet of Etheria, no one had ever asked Catra such a direct question. The "right" way to respond alluded her. She wanted nothing more than for this conversation to be over. It made her uncomfortable. She was someone who didn't like to reveal much about her private life to those she had just met. She thought that if she could honestly brush it off, they could move onto another topic.

"Well...I'm new to it all, but I was drawn to Adora pretty quickly, attracted to not just her looks, but her physical traits, even her voice, smell, and hair style."

She then sheepishly added, "I never predicted that my kiss with her would save the entire world."

Cass laughed. Catra stared at her, angrily. She thought Cass was making fun of her. Cass waved her hands and moved her head side-to-side.

"No, I'm not making fun of you at all…I just *haven't* been sexually attracted to someone like that...at least not at first...only after I got to know the prin...my childhood friend," she started. "Otherwise, I experienced *some* attraction, but it was more romantic and emotional, than anything sexual."

Catra had never met anyone like Cass. All the people back in Etheria seemed lovey-dovey, at least now that the war with the Horde had come to end. From what she could tell, all of them found others sexually appealing, whether that person was male, female, or something else entirely. *Each person* tried to attract others with sex appeal. The only one possibly outside of this, due to her love of robots, often more than people (with a few exceptions) was the techy princess, Entrapta. For her, sex drive, or what some called libido, probably wasn't a major desire. Sure, she liked being around women, and perhaps men, but Catra didn't know her exact pattern of sexual attraction, or her pattern of romantic connection with others. She had never asked something so personal and believed it wasn't her business to ask. However, she knew one thing about herself: *she loved girls*. She never had any romantic or sexual feelings for men. She had those feelings for one woman in particular: Adora, her childhood friend.

As they continued talking, and walking toward the VIK, Catra wanted to know one thing for certain: *who was this "friend" Cass had mentioned? Did she mean to say "princess" when she cut herself off, earlier?* Although she saw the risk in asking about it, she knew that she'd regret it if she didn't clear this up. Who knows when Adora and the rest of the crew would come to her aid? With her broken radio, it could be weeks, even months before they came. So, she needed to become friends with this other woman. Something interrupted her train of thought. She saw a poster on the ground. A grinning fair-skinned, rosy-cheeked girl took up most of the page.

It said: "Come to Rapunzelpalooza, the best festival of Corona! There are pans, mans, naans, sands, and, of course, bands! Come one, come all!" A small notice on the bottom said, "Image of Princess Rapunzel may not reflect reality." Catra let out a howl of laughter. It was the funniest thing she had seen all day. *Who was this adorable goof?* She almost reminded her of Adora.

Cass caught sight of the poster. She would always remember the large green eyes, brown eyebrows and eyelashes, the light freckles near the nose, her slender body, and her brownish (formerly golden blond) hair. "Yeah, that's the girl I was talking about, Princess Rapunzel," Cass said. Not long after, they entered the VIK, and came to a reception desk. Catra was shocked at Cass's revelation. Then, she realized that it wasn't that surprising.

Neither one had a chance to say anything because a receptionist spoke first. "What is your query?" the disembodied voice blared. It reminded Catra of that weird administrator Adora talked to all that time ago. Cass shouted back: "I'd like to see Varian!" As it processed her response, a door slammed open. A 17-year-old man, wearing of long-sleeved collared and beige shirt and maroon vest, stepped forward. His deep brown gloves matched his brown plants, mahogany brown utility belt, and boots. They were a mix of dark maroon and khaki. His gloves shone in the light.

"Hi, Cassie!" he yelled. He guided them back to his laboratory. Cass grimaced. "Varian, I told you to *NEVER* use that nickname." He tried to laugh it off. He knew what would happen if he crossed her. In the past, he had been on her wrong side. It didn't end well for him. "I won't do that again, Cass." Catra began to wonder what their relationship was like. She knew that Cass once had feelings for another woman, *but did Cass, possibly, have feelings for this guy, too?* Of course, she couldn't worry about that now. Still, the question would continue to gnaw away at her.

As they entered his laboratory, he closed the door behind them. He stepped back from Cass, and behind a table a few feet away, to distance himself. "So, what brings you here, today?" Catra piped up before Cass could say anything. She wanted this problem resolved as soon as possible. She needed to talk to Adora again. "I have this...radio. Can you fix it?"

She held out the busted device. Varian was amazed. He had never seen anything like it before. To concoct the charade that he knew what he was doing, even though he didn't, he told them to wait outside.

"I'll start working on this…you all wait near the front door, and I'll let you know when I'm done."

Catra didn't like the sound of that, as he sounded very unsure. But she knew she had no other choice. *Who else could repair her radio?*

Once they had made it out of Varian's earshot, and were standing near the VIK's front door, Catra got to ask her question. "So, were you and Varian like… a thing?"

Cass looked at Catra funny. She shook her head. *Why would Catra even ask this? She needed to nip this in the bud.*

"I *only* like women…I never once had any feelings for men, including Varian." She took this a step further. "Also, he is eight years older than me? Why in the world would I be with someone that is that much older than me? That isn't right." Catra wanted to know a little more. She had to make sure she had it right. She didn't have to inquire. It would eat away at her if she didn't.

"So, if I got this right, Varian is your good friend, and that's it."

Cass nodded. She snickered. She wanted to set the record straight, a final time. "Yes, you are right. I see him as a good friend, and *that's all*."

In many ways, this put Catra at ease. Her romantic and sexual orientations aligned. For Cass, they did not. As she knew by now, Cass's romantic attraction only came about when she got to know Rapunzel well. Her sexual attraction to others was non-existent. Even so, in some way, she felt that Cass was a person she could talk to about stuff like this. Knowing that, Cass, like her, didn't like men, made her glad.

Just then, Varian came out, sullen. His face had a look of dejection. Catra had a sense that something was wrong.

"Your…device…the radio as you call it…I can't figure out how to get it working again. I'm sorry."

Catra had been half-expecting this. She sighed. She believed that it was all lost. Perhaps she would be on this planet for a while *before* Adora found her. More than anything, she worried about Adora. She *wanted* to be embraced by her again. The feeling of being apart from her made her anxious. Not long after, Varian went back inside. He was embarrassed that he hadn't been able to help Catra.

Out of nowhere, a greyish ship landed nearby. A ramp came down. Two figures walked out. One was a 20-something young woman with blonde hair. Another one was a young woman with purple prehensile hair. As they walked across the ground, the blond-haired woman ran toward Catra.

"I'm so happy to see that you are okay!" she exclaimed.

Catra replied in-kind. "Yeah, I'm fine. I was almost *losing myself* that you weren't beside me...Adora."

Knowing that Catra had said about Adora, she could see how Catra could like her. She could also *sense* their close relationship. She didn't want to mess with that.

Since she was focusing so much on them, she didn't notice the other woman until he was inches from her face. She looked at the sword Cass had within a sheath on her belt. "Ooh, I like that sword…can I touch it?"

Cass backed away. This woman seemed like trouble. "Uh, no thanks. I'd like to keep it... thanks."

She tried her best to redirect the conversation. *Maybe this woman wasn't as bad as she thought?* She hoped that was the case.

"I'm Cass. What's your name?" Entrapta backed up a little, after realizing that Cass wasn't willing to hand over her sword. She had dealt with this kind of rejection before. She was still working on her social skills too.

"I'm Entrapta," she began. "I'm not always great with meeting other people for the first time."

She shook Cass's hand with her prehensile hair. While Cass found this weird, she didn't mind. It wasn't the strangest thing she had seen (or done). Catra started walking toward the ship, holding hands with Adora. Entrapta could see the longing look in Cass's eyes. While she wasn't the best when conversing with others, she *could tell* when people had feelings for each other. She just happened to have a device to fix that.

"I have these subspace radio things...so you can *both* keep in contact, after we leave." She used her hair to hand one device to Catra and another to Cass.

While Catra walked away with her girlfriend, she attempted to hide her feelings. *What would Adora think if someone had a crush on her partner?* She didn't know. She didn't want to know the answer to that question.

"I guess this is goodbye," Catra said. She waved to Cass, who waved back. She was sad to see Catra go. She was sad. She had finally found someone who got her, even though they had only been together a couple of hours. She hoped that someday, this catgirl would visit again. It was a slim chance, but she clung to it, nonetheless. As the ship departed in the blink of an eye, she stood there, alone. A tear went down her cheek. She walked back to the clearing where Catra had first arrived in her escape pod, that same day.

In a quiet voice, she said "I really miss her...I wish she could have stayed here forever." Unbeknownst to her, the subspace radio was turned on. Catra, and everyone on board their spaceship, could hear *every word*. They even heard the subsequent crying of Cass, as she sat with her back on the escape pod.

This embarrassed Catra to no end. Adora and Entrapta were speechless. She was about to say something, and reply, when Entrapta snatched the device out of Catra's hands. She turned the knob which allowed her to speak on the subspace radio device.

"Catra forgot to tell you she LOVES you...and...uh, your radio device is on…we…all heard what you said."

Cass couldn't be more mortified. *Had Entrapta set her up?* She wasn't sure. She was unsure how to respond. She heard Catra demanding the subspace radio back. She could tell immediately when Catra took the device away from Entrapta. There was no mistaking it: Catra was on the other end.

"I'm sorry about that, Cass. I'll miss you too...Let's talk soon."

Cass began beaming. Catra could almost feel the positive energy coming toward her, even though they were far away.

"I'd like that...and next time, you can meet Raps too."

Catra wanted to give her one more tip before they stopped talking. She didn't want their time together to end. They had other places to go. Adora was getting antsy (and *possibly* jealous).

"That sounds great...Just turn the knob on the top of the device to turn it off...*talk to you soon*."

The device went dead. Cass did what Catra instructed. The static stopped and the sound stopped. She sighed. Seeing how late in the day it was, she decided that she'd sleep in the escape pod that night, then move on to another town, in the morning. After all, she *didn't have* a permanent home these days.

Back on the greyish ship, which Entrapta had dubbed "Darla," Adora started questioning Catra. She wanted to know who Cass was and why she was so familiar with Catra.

"You are my girlfriend, remember…*I don't* want you paling around with some other beautiful girl."

Catra shook her head. *Was Adora jealous of her?* She wouldn't put it past her.

"Don't worry. Nothing happened between us. She probably has feelings for me, but *that's okay*."

Adora didn't want to act controlling or anything. She was just worried. She didn't want to give off the wrong impression.

"I don't want you to get in a tight spot and all...this Cass seems nice, but I'd like to know her a bit more if you...uh...*begin dating* or something."

Catra was surprised by Adora's response. She hadn't even thought about beginning a romantic relationship with Cass. *Could she even do that?* Adora seemed open to it, which surprised her.

"I'm not sure how I feel about Cass...but let's go together next time...and invite her to join us on *Darla*."

Adora smiled. It sounded like a swell idea. After all, with their universe-wide adventures, they didn't have a fixed place to call home, anymore, at least not these days. "I'd like that."

Having a sense that Cass had no permanent residence either, she added "us wanderers have to stick together."

Meeting Cass again remained an open question. It was within the realm of possibility. As the saying goes, time apart makes the heart grow fonder.

End Notes

For this fic, I aged-up Varian by one year, as I did with everyone else, as Cass was 24 at the end of the series, and Catra was 21, since this is set one year after the Tangled series finale and one year after the She-Ra finale. The dating range calculator (based on the popular "Half-Your-Age-Plus-Seven" rule, if you believe in that rule) says that if Varian is age 17, then the youngest he should date someone is 15.5, and the highest is 20. Cass is four years beyond the highest number, meaning there is an eight-year-age gap between them! If they were in a romantic relationship, it could arguably be a case of ephebophilia (primary sexual interest in mid-to-late adolescents who are ages 15-19), at those ages, or disturbing, nonetheless. In addition, since Cass is clearly a lesbian (the vibes are there in the series, I'd say), such a romantic relationship makes even less sense. I see them as friends and nothing more, which is why I cringe at the Cassarian folks out there. I make this crystal clear in my story.

Also, I used information from the "Catra" and "Shadow Weaver" pages on the She-Ra and the Princesses of Power wiki and the "Cassandra," "Varian," and "Rapunzel" pages on the Tangled wiki. The "Cassandra's Outfits" page on the Tangled Wiki was especially helpful. Other interesting Catra ships I may write about in the future include Amitra (Amity Blight and Catra as friends), Catfuma (Catra and Perfuma), and Glitra/Sparkle Kitten (Glimmer and Catra). I used some of the "crimes" listed on the villains' wiki at the beginning of this story. One of the lines is based on what Steven Universe says in Steven Universe: The Movie ("I want everything to stay exactly like this and never change") before Spinel comes down with her injector. I've thought that Entrapta was possibly asexual. Probably Corona has some level of compulsory heterosexuality, but Rapunzel is working to counteract it. I originally was going to include Bow in this story, but decided against it, because I think it would be more interesting if she met Bow and Glimmer together, rather than Bow on his own. But, if I do end up continuing this, I may have her come to Etheria, or talk to Bow and/or Glimmer.

Update on 6/14/25: Due to a rash of spam comments, I have restricted comments on this fic to registered users. If you are a guest and want to comment, I'm sorry, but the spammers, with their bots, are the ones that ruined this.

Sadly, on Apr. 17, after some back-and-forth, the admin of Sunset permanently suspended my account (and removed ALL 35 of my fics, including this one) for mishandling interactions with certain users *even after* I apologized to said users and removed certain passages of two fics. As such, I would **strongly** recommend against *anyone* joining that site, or Superlove, as both admins (Melo/Kat for Superlove, Agnes for Sunset) are friends with each other. Those admins are very particular and not in a good way. I find the whole circumstance deeply unfortunate. I wish it could have been resolved a much better way.

Works inspired by this one

Rise of the Scarlet Wildcat by lefemmerouge

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!